

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently Amended) A method of granting access to a secured service provided by at least one destination server, comprising:

receiving a telephone number signal from a calling source, said telephone number signal indicating a request to access a secured service provided by said at least one destination server;

identifying a directory number corresponding to said calling source in response to receiving said telephone number signal;

determining if said calling source has authorization to the secured service provided by said at least one destination server; and

retrieving an authentication key from a database when said calling source has authorization to said secured service; and

providing said authentication key to said at least one destination server independent of said request to access said secured service.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A computer-useable medium storing a computer program product for use in a communications network, said computer program product comprising:

computer-readable code for receiving a telephone number signal from a calling source, said telephone number signal indicating a request to access a secured service provided by at least one destination server;

computer-readable code for identifying a directory number corresponding to said calling source in response to receiving said telephone number signal;

computer-readable code for determining if said calling source has authorization to a secured service provided by said at least one destination server; ~~and~~

computer-readable code for retrieving an authentication key from a database when said calling source has authorization to a secured service provided by said at least one destination server; and

computer-readable code for providing said authentication key to said at least one destination server independent of said request to access said secured service.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a communication network, comprising:

providing a trigger to a switch, said trigger indicating an attempt by a calling source to establish a communication link with at least one destination server to request access to a secured service provided by said at least one destination server;

operating said switch to provide a query to a service control point in response to said trigger, said query including an authorization to establish said communication link between said calling source and said at least one destination server; and

operating said service control point to retrieve an authentication key from a database in response to said query when a directory number corresponding to said calling source is stored within said database and provide said authentication key to said at least one destination server independent of said request to access said secured service.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, ~~further comprising: operating wherein~~ said service control point ~~to provide~~ provides said authentication key to at least one key server in communication with said at least one destination server and said at least one key server provides said authentication key to said at least one destination server.

7. (Cancelled).

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8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
operating said service control point to remove said authentication key from said
at least one key server.
9. (Currently Amended) A communication network, comprising:
a switch operable to receive a trigger indicating an attempt by a calling source to
establish a communication link with at least one destination server to request access to
a secured service by said at least one destination server;
a service control point; and
a database operable to store a set of authorized directory numbers and an
authentication key,
wherein said switch is further operable to provide a query to said service
control point in response to said trigger, said query including an authorization to
establish said communication link between said calling source and said at least
one destination server,
said service control point is operable to retrieve said authentication key
from said database in response to said query when a directory number
corresponding to said calling source is listed within said set of authorized
directory numbers as stored within said database and provide said authentication
key to said at least one destination server independent of said request to access
said secured service.

42. (Cancelled).¹

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a communication network,
comprising:

¹ The original order of the claims at the time of filing has been preserved even though claims 42, 44, and 45 are numerically out of order.

operating a calling source to provide a telephone number signal to a communication network, said telephone number signal representative of a request to access a secured service provided by at least one destination server;

operating said communication network to determine if a directory number corresponding to said calling source is listed within a set of authorized directory numbers stored within said communication network; and

operating said communication network to provide an authentication key from a database to said at least one key server in communication with said at least one destination server-when said directory number is listed within said set of authorized directory numbers and provide said authentication key to said at least one destination server independent of said request to access said secured service.

44. (Cancelled).

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a calling source;

at least one destination server;

a communication network in communication with said calling source and said at least one destination server; and

at least one key server in communication with said at least one destination server and said communication network, wherein

said calling source is operable to provide a telephone signal to said communication network, said telephone number being representative of a request to access a secured service provided by said at least one destination server,

said communication network is operable to determine if a directory number corresponding to said calling source is listed within a set of authorized directory numbers stored within said communication network, and

said communication network is further operable to provide an authentication key from a database to said at least one key server when said directory number is listed within said set of authorized directory numbers and provide said authentication key to said at least one destination server independent of said request to access said secured service.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16 47, wherein

said communication network is further operable to establish a communication link between said calling source and said at least one destination server in response to said telephone number signal; and

said at least one destination server is operable to provide said authentication key through said communication link to said calling source.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein

said communication network is further operable to remove said authentication key from said communication network after providing said authentication key to said at least one key server.

45. (Cancelled).

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said calling source is a client workstation and said communication network includes an advanced intelligent network.

23-25. (Cancelled).